



MARION COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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Media Advisory:

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Marion Co. Prosecutor's Office to offer two public crime prevention forums targeting burglary and property theft

(Indianapolis, Ind.) The Marion County Prosecutor's Office announced today that it will offer two upcoming forums targeting burglary and property theft prevention. Deputy prosecutors specializing in these crimes will present *Why Might a Criminal Choose You?*, a free presentation with simple and effective crime prevention tips to help citizens protect their homes, businesses and personal property.

The presentations, which are free and open to the public, are scheduled for **Wednesday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m.** and **Monday, March 10 at 6 p.m.**

Deputy prosecutors from the Marion Co. Prosecutor's Office Multi-Jurisdictional Offender Strategy Team (M.O.S.T.) will lead both presentations. Funded by a grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, M.O.S.T. deputy prosecutors go beyond jurisdictional lines and work closely with law enforcement agencies in Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan and Shelby Counties to prosecute burglaries and theft as part of their efforts to combat crime and address other quality of life issues.

"Burglary and property crimes threaten a community's safety and stability and have a lasting effect on victims," said Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry. "I strongly encourage our citizens to participate in these forums or to schedule a crime prevention presentation in their neighborhood. Our presenters are experienced professionals who work with law enforcement to prevent and prosecute these types of crimes, and the information they share is invaluable."

What: *Why Might a Criminal Choose You?*

When &

Where: **Wednesday, February 26**
6:30 p.m.

Hope Community Church
7440 Hague Road

In partnership with Binford Redevelopment and Growth (BRAG)

Monday, March 10

6 p.m.

John Wesley Free Methodist Church
5900 W. 46th St.

*In partnership with Vinewood Avenue-Ipswich Court Neighborhood
CrimeWatch*

Who: Kimberly Huizinga, deputy prosecutor
Jennifer Jones, deputy prosecutor
Daphne Whitmire, deputy prosecutor

In addition to burglary prevention and prosecution, M.O.S.T. deputy prosecutors have played an active role in partnering with city agencies to better regulate scrap metal dealers. From 2012 to 2013, they were involved in investigating and prosecuting members of a metal theft ring that burglarized four Marion County properties, which caused victims to incur an estimated \$282,000 in repairs.

The Marion Co. Prosecutor's Office Community Prosecution Division offers crime prevention programming free of charge to neighborhood organizations, faith-based organizations, and community groups. Presentations include burglary prevention to landlord training and internet safety for parents and children. To learn more or to schedule a presentation, please contact mcpo@indy.gov.